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SWITCH STRIKE SPREADS OVER NATION

French Draw First Blood on German Soil

RAINS NEW DANGER OF RIVER RISE

Rainfall Would Flood Every Low Section of the City, Officials Say.

Muscatine, Iowa, April 8.—The flood waters cover about 2,000 acres of ground south of this city. After a 24-hour struggle, efforts to stay the flood at a point eight miles south of Muscatine failed, and the overflow of a section of the city housing some 1,000 people is certain. Nearly all factories have suspended operation and street railway service has been discontinued on several lines. Hundreds of volunteer workers are struggling night and day to maintain levees protecting the city.

Quincy, Ill., April 8.—The Mississippi river here has reached a stage of 17 feet. Levees enclosing nearly 150,000 acres of planted crops in this vicinity are holding out and can stand at least two more feet more, but every precaution is being taken to look after weak places.

Taking in the probabilities of local rains, Rock Island is the most seriously affected of the quad-city community from the continual rise in the Mississippi river.

The river stage today is 16.9 feet above low water mark, a rise of seven-tenths of a foot over yesterday, which is within one-tenth of a foot of the great stage of 17 feet that was predicted at this point for tomorrow, according to the predictions given out by J. M. Shier, government meteorologist at Davenport.

At this stage of the flood Rock Island is in a serious predicament. With various dangers from the river itself ahead, the main worry here is now over local rains. It is expected by city officials that almost any degree of rainfall within the next few days will be sure to flood every low spot below the bluff.

Until today fears over the situation in the west end district were paramount, but today all attention is directed to the east end district situation on account of the backing up of the sewers which it is said will cause a sure overflow of low spots in the east end district if a rain should come.

Heavy sewer and storm drain in the city is now tied up. The west end situation is being alleviated by the action of two electrical driven sewer pumps at the Fifth avenue pumping station. However, the east end district is without such an accommodation, and, therefore, a bigger fear is being directed to this situation on account of the backing up of the east end sewers over night.

Two Sewers Choked. The main sewer flow of the east end district is on Fortich street, which has a four-foot and a two-foot sewer. The two-foot sewer is the lowest and is badly choked by back water from the river. The four-foot sewer is in but little better condition. This sewer is backed up as far as Fifth avenue, where a street opening was left to take in surface water at the low spot underneath the railroad viaduct.

Other sewers in the district are in as bad a condition, prophesying serious menace in case of rain. The west end district, with the Eleventh and Nineteenth street sewers out of commission on account of gates having to be closed, faces a further setback today on account of one of the flow pipes from the pumps being reached by the rise in the river. The pump is able to force the water out, but in case the pump should cease operation the water from the river would flow into the sewer. Arrangements were being made to extend this pipe further into the air to over-reach the river stage.

Embankment Holding. The Rock Island railroad embankment in the west end is the only obstruction between the river and the rest of the west end district. The east side of the tracks is already flooded to a considerable extent, due to water getting through the Sixteenth avenue storm drain before this was damaged.

However, the embankment is holding regardless of the wave action of the flooded district to the west.

Protect Ninth Street. While the railroad embankment still seems to be standing firm the city officials are taking no chances at a washout that would flood the entire west end. Cement sacks in large numbers have been obtained to be filled with sand to fill low spots along Ninth street to stop the flood there in case the stop-

NATIONS OVER WORLD ARE IN NERVOUS STATE

Lack of Central Body to Enforce Treaty Held As Cause.

BY DAVID LAWRENCE.

(Special to The Argus.) Washington, D. C., April 8.—International nervousness is spreading. France's occupation of German territory against the judgment of the United States, Great Britain and other allied powers is but one symptom. Throughout the world as it becomes apparent that there is no central, cohesive, effective instrumentality to enforce the peace treaty, each nation is beginning to look out for her own interests.

Japan has seized Vladivostok, being nervous about the proximity of the bolsheviks and their doctrines to incipient radicalism in the land of Nippon.

Italy is tacitly behind D'Annunzio's occupation of Fiume.

Poland has reached out for pieces of Russian territory.

The near east is a tangle of British and French pretensions in Turkey and Syria.

Germany's socialist government claims her economic ruin is sought by France and that unless it is permitted to put down the revolt in the Ruhr valley, the monarchial party will come back into power.

Marshal Foch and French generals putting no stock in German pleas have influenced Premier Millerand and the French foreign office to take no chances on the allied council of diplomats who were trying to dissuade France to go ahead and take German territory first and talk about it afterwards.

French Position Clear. This summary of the world situation as gathered in official quarters here involves no accusations against other governments or nations of improper motive. France's action in occupying German cities is deplored but nevertheless thoroughly understood. President Wilson sees his charges of militarism against the party now in control of France as vindicated by events. But while the military have unquestionably affected the views of the French foreign office, there is a disposition here to regard the advice and action of the French military as a natural and logical outgrowth of the policy of abandonment of France which has been gradually adopted involuntarily by the powers associated with her in the war.

The British people are sick of war and Prime Minister Lloyd George is no exception.

(Continued on Page Ten.)

PLANE STATION AT LOVE FIELD, TEX., IS RAZED

Dallas, Texas, April 8.—Five large buildings of the air service depot of Love Field burned today, with loss estimated at \$1,000,000.

The fire originated among the highly combustible wings of wrecked German Fokker planes and only the perfect fire drill of the enlisted men prevented heavier losses, it was said. Fire drill had been held only yesterday afternoon.

The million dollar estimate of loss is considered conservative. Major D. B. Netherland, commanding officer, said today. Many Libby motors, spare parts and wrecked planes were lost in the destruction of the storage warehouse and on the shipping platform.

The fire was discovered by a guard at 2:50 and by the time the men could be called out the flames had enveloped the storage warehouse, the shipping docks and the boiler house. The "dope" house, where wings received their final treatment, was consumed despite a system of sprinklers.

Three hundred civilians in addition to the enlisted detachment were employed at the depot. No one was injured, though several men were exhausted in fighting the fire.

CHAPLIN FIGHTS WIFE'S MANAGER IN HOTEL LOBBY

(By United Press.) Los Angeles, April 8.—Charlie Chaplin's face today bore marks of a hotel lobby fight here last night with Louis Mayer, film producer, and manager of Chaplin's estranged wife, Mildred Harris Chaplin.

"Ask Mayer and my wife, they can tell you," was Chaplin's statement regarding the fray.

According to witnesses, Chaplin met Mayer in the hotel lobby and demanded he remove his glasses. Mayer complied and Chaplin missed a swing to the jaw. After several exchanges Chaplin fell to the floor.

The film comedian's nose showed several deep scratches today.

6 DIE FOR TAUNTS IN FRANKFORT

Jeers Cause Senegalese Troops to Open Fire on Crowd; Scores Hurt.

Mayence, April 8.—Complete order has been restored at Frankfort, the authorities having succeeded in quieting the students. The municipality has posted bill requesting the people to keep calm. The scene, it is said, was made prisoners at Frankfort will be removed from the occupied territory by rail today.

Paris, April 8.—It is reported from Coblenz that there has been a collision of French and German patrols between Bad-nauheim and Niederwald, north of Hamburg. In the exchange of shots a German officer was wounded. The report is not confirmed from other sources.

Paris, April 8.—Reports that Great Britain and the United States had called upon France to withdraw her troops from Frankfort are entirely without foundation. It was announced in an official note issued today. "Certain agencies inspired by Germany," reads the note, "spread the report in Germany and some neutral countries that England and the United States had summoned France yesterday to remove her troops from Frankfort. This report, which evidently was intended to be misleading and which produced a certain effervescence in the newly occupied regions yesterday, is absolutely without foundation."

Frankfort, April 8.—(By the Associated Press.) This afternoon's clash in the Schiller Platz between French troops and the population, resulting in the killing of six Germans and the wounding of some two-score others, was followed by a strong display of French military force which brought the restoration of order by the time darkness had set in.

It was a rumor that the French had been forced by the pressure of the allies and the United States to withdraw from the city that started the trouble. The crowd jeered and taunted the troops, yelling, "You've got to get out" at the Senegalese who were patrolling in front of the guard house on the square.

A French officer ordered the crowd to disperse, and when the order was ignored, a machine gun was brought into play. Disturbances also occurred in other parts of the city.

Troops Rush to Square. The firing attracted a great crowd to the square, encircling the troops. The French began to bring up reinforcements, four tanks behind solid columns of soldiers rolling in ready for action.

The reinforcements went up the main street toward the scene. Troops with fixed bayonets cleared the way and the regulars followed. The officers directing the movement from the center of the group. One of the tanks was stationed before the Frankfurterhof, where General Susselbe and other officers are quartered.

The German police aided in the action taken to restore quiet, quickly stationing groups at strategic points to control the crowds. The French officer deplored the happening in conversation with the correspondent last night.

French Regret Act. "The French authorities extremely regret this occurrence," he said. There was keen speculation during the early part of the day whether there would be a strike by the workmen in protest against the occupation. It is understood that a movement was started to call a strike of short duration as a demonstration, but the correspondence was informed shortly after the noon that the leaders of the social democrats were counseling against a strike, fearing that the presence of idle workmen in the streets might lead to disorders.

The general sentiment expressed by the populace up to the time of this afternoon's incident at least was that the people of Frankfort were powerless to resist the occupation.

Germans Satisfied. The Germans refer satirically to the occupation as "the conquest of Frankfort," declaring that the French secretly surrounded the city and swooped down upon it as if they expected to meet armed resistance. Several tanks, which had been placed in front of the railway station yesterday, were removed during the early hours today.

Pittsburgh, Kan., April 8.—Alexander Hovak, who with his official associates in the Kansas United Mine Workers' union must appear for trial in the district court Friday on a contempt charge, was reported today to be offering his "head" against that of Governor Henry J. Allen.

U. S. Intercepts Notes to Villa on Seizure of Lower California.

El Paso, Texas, April 8.—Five persons are under arrest and information is in the hands of the federal grand jury which may lead to other arrests in connection with the plan for the seizure of Lower California and simultaneously campaigns against the Soria Sonora and Chihuahua might have developed into serious proportions.

Intercept Villa Notes. But for the arrest of a boy and girl carrying messages to Francisco Villa by military forces in the Big Bend district, officers admitted the plan for the seizure of Lower California and simultaneously campaigns against the Soria Sonora and Chihuahua might have developed into serious proportions.

A Villa Colonel. Chavez is said to be a colonel in Villa's army, and Borboa had in his possession a proclamation naming himself governor of Lower California and naming his aide as chief of the army.

5 HELD IN BOLD PLOT ON BORDER

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SENATE URGED TO VOTE DOWN LABOR RULING

Washington, April 8.—Fast rejection of the plan proposed by President Wilson's second industrial conference for the setting of labor laws was urged before the senate labor committee today by W. Jett Lauck, secretary of the old war labor board.

Lauck was the first witness at hearings on the conference plan preliminary to the drafting of legislation to carry into effect such of the committee as the committee may deem advisable.

Mr. Lauck told the committee that the industrial unrest throughout the world was due to the fact that labor organizations were demanding a greater measure of control by labor in industry, as well as larger earnings and shorter hours.

The conference, he said, had failed "to use trade unionism as a basis for collective bargaining," did not provide any principles on which to base settlements and had recommended regional methods of dispute settlement rather than industrial boards in each industry.

LATE BULLETINS

London, April 8.—Both the Central News and Exchange Telegraph company state today that the British and associated governments have been opposed throughout to French occupation of German towns and that France acted on her own initiative.

Springfield, Ill., April 8.—Switchmen and engine crews in the Baltimore and Ohio yards went on strike here this afternoon. None of the other roads entering the city was affected.

Paris, April 8.—A strike of maritime workers has been ordered by the Marine Union in all the ports of France. The strike is already in effect at Marseilles and Dunkirk.

Chicago, April 8.—Attorney General Palmer has telegraphed District Attorney (Clyde) to "prosecute to the limit" any contempt charge, was reported today to be offering his "head" against that of Governor Henry J. Allen.

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FUNERAL VESSEL BRINGS BACK DEAD

New York, April 8.—The transport Nansamond, first American funeral ship from Europe, arrived early today with the bodies of 87 soldiers who died in base hospitals in England during the war. Relatives and friends of the dead assembled at the dock to receive the flag draped coffins. It was planned to ship all of the bodies to their final resting places during the day.

LIMIT DEBATE TO RUSH VOTE ON WAR'S END

House Clears Way to Final Call Friday By 214-155.

Washington, April 8.—Adoption of the Republican peace resolution tomorrow by the house was indicated today when the rule limiting debate on the measure to nine hours was adopted with some Democrats joining with the Republicans in supporting it.

The vote was 214 to 155. Immediately afterwards the debate on the resolution itself was opened. It will continue until 5 p. m. tomorrow when a vote on the resolution is expected.

Democrats voting for the rule numbered seven, while one Republican, Representative Fuller, of Massachusetts, voted against it. The Democrats joining with the Republican majority were: Caldwell, New York; Evans, Nevada; Gallivan and Olney, Massachusetts; Sherwood, Ohio, and Goldfogel, New York, and Gault, New York.

Campbell's Plan. Washington, April 8.—Declaring that the war with Germany was over and that congress should assert the fact, Chairman Campbell of the rules committee, opened in the house today the fight for adoption of the joint resolution declaring the state of war at an end. The galleries were crowded at the beginning of the debate which will close late tomorrow to be followed by a vote on passage of the resolution.

The first phase of the battle began on presentation of the special rule limiting debate to nine hours. Two hours were allowed for discussion of the rule, the vote on which will give the first test of strength.

Also Urges Passage. The house met an hour earlier to begin the debate and Representative Campbell began a prepared address urging not only adoption of the rule, but also of the resolution as soon as the roll call was concluded.

Mr. Campbell said the people were weary by a year and a half of life under an executive with war powers in time of peace and longed for the freedom of a government with three separate and independent branches.

3 MORE JAILED FOR PICKETING

Washington, April 8.—Irish pickets appeared at the British embassy again today and were promptly arrested by the police on charges of violating a federal statute.

The pickets arrested were: Misses Mary Galvin, Philadelphia; Mauria Quinn, Jamaica Plains, Mass.; Katherine McKee, Philadelphia.

The women did not furnish bail and were taken to the house of detention to await preliminary trial. They probably will be heard Monday along with the other four arrested earlier in the week.

2 DEAD, 2 LOST IN FATAL BLAST AT PONCA CITY, OKLA.

Ponca City, Okla., April 8.—One person is dead, one seriously injured and two are unaccounted for as the result of an explosion which early today wrecked several buildings here, causing property damage estimated at \$100,000.

C. W. Miller, cook in the cafe in which the explosion occurred, died in a hospital. Robert L. Hawkins, a dishwasher in the cafe, received injuries from which physicians say he probably will die. The missing are Miss Viola Ammann and an unidentified man.

Henry Grady, a negro porter, and J. W. PUNCH, driver of a street sweeper were injured.

FUNERAL VESSEL BRINGS BACK DEAD

New York, April 8.—The transport Nansamond, first American funeral ship from Europe, arrived early today with the bodies of 87 soldiers who died in base hospitals in England during the war. Relatives and friends of the dead assembled at the dock to receive the flag draped coffins. It was planned to ship all of the bodies to their final resting places during the day.

Each body, encased in a metal-lined, flag draped casket, will be accompanied by a soldier guard, made up as far as possible of men who served in the same organization as the deceased. These guards of honor will remain with the bodies until burial. Then they will return to the base here to make the barge in the levee on Mississippi land, the final stage will not be close the record of those, who when their country called, responded to the limit of their power.

BERLIN IN BREAKOVER RUHR MOVE

Trade Unions Demand Withdrawal of Troops With Danger Near.

Paris, April 8.—Merciless repression by the reichswehr forces in the Ruhr basin is reported by fugitives arriving in Frankfort, according to a Mayence dispatch to the Journal des Debates, the fugitives alleging they witnessed the shooting of all Westphalians who laid down their arms. The Debates expresses the opinion that France will accept a prolongation of the period, perfected by the convention of August last, with Germany concerning the maintenance of troops in the neutral zone.

Berlin, April 7.—Majority socialist members of the German cabinet have been placed in an embarrassing position by demands of labor leaders for withdrawal of regular troops from the Ruhr valley and for action in other matters related to the situation, which has resulted in a French advance east of the Rhine.

It is freely admitted this action came as a surprise as the coalition government did not expect an attack from Carl Legien, president of the German Federation of Trade Unions, and other leaders, who signed the demands. It has been acting in the belief it had the support of all parties, in view of the serious situation confronting the country.

Demands Favor France. In official quarters it was expected that the labor demands amounted to moral support of Premier Millerand of France, and it is declared they are not feasible as the government is putting forth its utmost efforts to restore quiet in the Ruhr region.

Liberal newspapers outspokenly condemn the maneuver, for which they hold Herr Legien responsible.

Gessler to Aerode. It is declared by Vorwaerts that Minister of Defense Gessler informed the deputations which presented the demands of the labor leaders that he would immediately order the withdrawal of all troops which had committed any excesses.

The minister said that the Ruhr line would not be passed, the volunteer corps would be disbanded and the civil guards reorganized, Vorwaerts states.

CON-CON REFERS ARMY EXEMPTION TO PHRASE BOARD

(By United Press.) Springfield, Ill., April 8.—After two hours of parliamentary gymnastics, the constitutional convention today wrote the first article of the new constitution.

The article written today deals with the state militia. Some question arose early in the session as to the proper wording of section six of the article. This section was intended to place in the hands of the governor the power to exempt conscientious objectors from combatant service, but not to exempt them from noncombatant service.

The Weather. Unsettled weather tonight and Friday. Somewhat warmer tonight with the lowest temperature slightly above freezing.

Highest temperature yesterday, 46; lowest last night, 30. Precipitation in last 24 hours, none.

12 m. 7 p.m. 7 a.m. yesterday, yesterday, today. Dry bulb temp., 42 39 33. Wet bulb temp., 32 32 30. Relative humid., 36 41 66.

Daily River Bulletin.

St. Paul, 10.1. 0.4. Red Wing, 9.8. 0.4. LaCrosse, 11.9. 0.4. Dubuque, 20.7. 0.3. LeClaire, 13.2. 0.4. Davenport, 16.3. 0.2.

River Forecast. A nearly stationary stage in the Mississippi will prevail at Clinton during the next 24 hours, after which time a fall will set in. Only a slight further rise is indicated at LeClaire and Davenport and the river will come to a stand at both places by Friday. A slightly rising stage is indicated for Muscatine until Saturday, but on account of the break in the levee on Mississippi land, the final stage will not be close the record of those, who when their country called, responded to the limit of their power.

J. M. SHEPHERD, Meteorologist.

INSURGENTS THREATEN TO STRIKE AT CENTERS OF FREIGHT MACHINERY

Brotherhoods and Outlaws Ready for Test of Control as Strategic Freight Centers Throughout Country Begin to Accede to Strike Pulse.

SIMS' CHARGES DRAW FIRE OF ADM. WILSON

Navy Efficiency Never Better Than at Time of Joining Allies, He Tells House Probe Board.

Washington, April 8.—The vessels on the active list of the navy were never better prepared for war than when the United States joined the allies and the navy department had "full and complete plans to combat a German offensive against the coasts of the United States. Admiral H. B. Wilson today told the senate committee investigating the navy department's conduct of the world war.

Replying to criticism in the letter from Rear Admiral Sims to Secretary Daniels that caused the investigation, Admiral Wilson asserted that "from the moment war was declared, the entire navy entered into the prosecution of the war with the greatest energy and its accomplishments deserve the commendation of the nation."

Position in War. Admiral Wilson, now commander-in-chief of the Atlantic fleet, commanded the patrol force that first protected waters adjacent to the United States and later, based on Brest, France, cooperated in protecting allied convoys in the war zone and hunting U-boats.

Within four days after this country entered the war representatives of the allied admirals were in conference with Secretary Daniels and naval officers in Washington, outlining the means by which the American government could give aid, the witness said. So far as he knew, Admiral Wilson said, every suggestion or proposition put forward by the allied officials was promptly agreed to and efficiently carried out. The fact that the greater part of the American army was transported over a few thousand miles of water within a life being lost through efforts of the enemy, testified to the success of this cooperation, the admiral asserted.

Mistakes "Trifling." Mistakes the navy made during the war were so "relatively unimportant" that they were hardly worth considering in comparison with its achievements, the witness said.

"No nation upon the approach of war has had a force of battleships more nearly prepared for battle than was the force to which I was attached and which spent the winter of 1916-17 in southern waters."

Admiral Wilson testified, "I feel sure that if this force had engaged an enemy on its cruise in the spring of 1917, the victory would have been ours."

Morale in the service was high at that time, the officer said, and the active fleet prepared for any emergency.

WINTER WHEAT AND RYE ARE BELOW NORMAL

Washington, April 8.—Production of winter wheat this year was forecast today at 483,617,000 bushels, and rye 75,541,000 bushels, by the department of agriculture, which based its estimate on the average planted last December, allowing for average average abandonment and assuming average influence until harvest.

Condition of wheat April 3, was 75.6, and rye 88.8 per cent of a normal.

Winter wheat production last year was 721,636,000 bushels and the previous year 685,699,000 bushels. Rye production last year was 88,478,000 bushels and the previous year 91,041,000 bushels.

Condition of winter wheat a year ago was 29.8 per cent of a normal, two years ago, 78.6, and the April 1 average for the last 10 years was 54.1 per cent.

Condition of rye a year ago was 90.8 per cent of a normal, two years ago, 85.8, and the 10-year average, 89.0.

DETROIT, MICH., APRIL 8.—The unauthorized strike of switchmen which began in the local yards of the Michigan Central road this forenoon with the walkout of a few crews, had extended this afternoon to other yards and according to representatives of the strikers, more than 1,000 men had quit by 2 p. m.

Approximately fifty switchmen on four railroads are on strike here today. Switchmen on the Elgin, Joliet and Eastern railroad known as the "Chicago Outer Belt Line," over which a large portion of transcontinental freight is handled without going through the Chicago terminals, refused to quit. Officials of their union say the men will not join the Chicago Yarnmen's association in a walkout.

Deatur, Ill., April 8. All switch tenders in the Deatur Washburn yards, one of the main yards of the system, were out on strike today, completely tying up all freight traffic. Only one stock train was moved. Road officials were working in an attempt to keep passenger trains running. Wages was said to be the cause of the strike.

Los Angeles, April 8.—The railroad strike has spread to Los Angeles, where early today the Yarnmen's association, said between 500 and 1,000 men on the Southern Pacific, Santa Fe, and Salt Lake lines, had walked out in sympathy with the strikers on eastern roads.

Washington, April 8. In view of the railroad strike at Chicago, President Wilson's advisors urged upon him today to send to the senate the authorization of the nine members of the railroad labor board. The president has been having difficulties finding three men to give up their business and represent the public on the board.

Chicago, April 8.—Today will decide whether the railroad brotherhoods can control their men, or whether the unauthorized and "illegal" strikes sweeping railroad yards from Buffalo, N. Y., to Los Angeles, Calif., have so disrupted the established union that the leaders have lost all control.

Railroad officials and union leaders here alike agreed that today would bring the real test of strength between the strongly entrenched group of brotherhoods and the "outlaw" unions under leaders who voice their dissatisfaction at what they declare is the failure of the brotherhood officials to get more money for their men.

In the Chicago district, the railroad general managers' association has set today as the last day for the striking switchmen, engineers and firemen to return. If they fail to meet the ultimatum, strike-breakers will be brought in, it is said.

Strike Situation. A review of the situation shows: Chicago, eight to ten thousand railroad men out; freight service reduced to about 35 per cent of normal; 35,000 packing house employees forced out of work by the shutdown.

Kansas City: Two thousand five hundred men on strike; nine of the 13 roads entering the city affected.

St. Louis: Two thousand seven hundred men on strike; railroad yards tied up; change in effect against all freight.

St. Paul: Twelve hundred men on strike; three transcontinental lines affected.

Toldeo: Six hundred switchmen on strike; all traffic expected to be at a standstill within 24 hours.

Gary: Three hundred men out; strike spreading.

Kankakee, Ill.: Early men out; three roads affected.

Detroit, Mich.: Forty men on strike; one hundred yards tied up.

Cleveland: One thousand five hundred men to meet tonight to consider a strike vote.

St. Louis, East St. Louis and Milwaukee: Men are holding meetings to consider organization of branches of the new "outlaw" unions.

Food Scarcity in Chicago. Chicago found a serious food shortage today. Potatoes, which made a new high record of 87 per hundred pounds, wholesale, yesterday, jumped another dollar when the market opened this morning.

Egg receipts fell to 4,000 cases today, as compared to more than 21,000 cases yesterday. Reports of the railroads to keep milk trains moving has been only partially successful. Most of the milk delivered several times during the last week as a result of suspension of work at the packing plants.